

Theater and Phillipines during World War II, Embudo is where Silver lived his entire life with his extraordinary and beautiful wife and best friend of 67 years, Mary B. Romero, of Dixon. Together, after Silver returned from military service, they built the house in Embudo on County Road 0062 where their three sons, Alfonso, David, and Richard, grew up and where Silver lived and worked until his passing last week.

Silver was a pillar of his community. He was a man dedicated to others—to his family, his community, his country, and his God. Like so many others of his noble generation, he served his country in the military and continued to serve his community upon his return home. Not only did Silver work for Los Alamos County, the Española School District, and as the Rio Arriba County clerk, but he was also actively involved as a county school board member, a Jemez co-op board member, a member of the East Rio Arriba Soil and Water Conservation District, and a lifelong active member of the Rio Arriba Democratic Party.

Yes, Silver was a pillar of the extended Embudo community, and he was something of an institution in Rio Arriba County. But it was on County Road 0062, at La Junta, and the confluence of the Rio Embudo and Rio Grande, that one could see and feel Silver's love for the people and world around him. The cats, dogs, and horses who came under Silver's care knew full well the enormity of Silver's heart. And one need look no further than see the joy on Silver's face as he drove his four-wheeler down the road to inspect what may or may not be a rattlesnake, wind whipping through his appropriately silver-colored hair, to understand his appreciation and love for life.

That Silver lived at the confluence of the little-known Rio Embudo and the Rio Grande, one of the largest rivers in the United States, is appropriate. The Rio Grande stretches almost 2,000 miles, providing water and sustenance to parts of this country where no one has heard of the little Rio Embudo. Yet without it, and other tributaries along the way, the Rio Grande would likely not be the force it is.

So, too, does a life like Silver's contribute to the world around him. Those of us who knew him and knew of his commitment to his community understand the contributions he made and the ways in which it improved the lives of many beyond Embudo, Rio Arriba County, and even New Mexico. But a life lived as Silver lived his touches even those who never had the honor and pleasure of knowing him. Quite simply, the world was a much better, kinder place with Silver in it.

While we are profoundly saddened by the passing of this humble yet extraordinary man, we can take great solace in the fact that he is survived by many deeply touched by him: his wife Mary; his brothers, Tom and Uvaldo Romero; his sister, Julia Montoya; his sons, Al-

fonso, David, and Richard; his grandchildren, Ann Williams, Amy Shelly, Dee Romero, David Romero, Jason Romero, Ryan Romero, Richard Romero, Jr., and Marquita Romero; his great-grandchildren, Taylor, Tyrell, Ashton, Saren, Katherine, Emma, Isla, Noah Silviano, Juan Diego, and Mark.

The spirit of Silviano "Silver" Romero lives on in all of them and will forever live in the Dixon and Embudo Valley, Rio Arriba County, and in all of the great State of New Mexico.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:36 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 174. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cemetery for veterans in the southern Colorado region.

H.R. 1168. An act to amend chapter 42 of title 38, United States Code, to provide certain veterans with employment training assistance.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 509. An act to authorize a major medical facility project at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Walla Walla, Washington, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 6:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 475. An act to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to guarantee the equity of spouses of military personnel with regard to matters of residency, and for other purposes.

S. 509. An act to authorize a major medical facility project at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Walla Walla, Washington, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 174. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cem-

etry for veterans in the southern Colorado region; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1168. An act to amend chapter 42 of title 38, United States Code, to provide certain veterans with employment training assistance; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3533. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importation of Tomatoes From Souss-Massa-Draa, Morocco" (Docket No. APHIS-2008-0017) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3534. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Mushroom Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Order" (Docket No. AMS-FV-08-0047; FV-08-702-FR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3535. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Onions Grown in South Texas; Change in Regulatory Period" (Docket No. AMS-FV-9-0012; FV09-959-1 FIR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3536. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines and Tangelos Grown in Florida and Imported Grapefruit; Relaxation of Size Requirements for Grapefruit" (Docket No. AMS-FV-09-0002; FV09-905-1 FIR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3537. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Almonds Grown in California; Revision of Outgoing Quality Control Requirements" (Docket No. AMS-FV-08-0045; FV08-981-2 FIR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3538. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cotton Research and Promotion Program: Referendum Procedures" (Docket No. AMS-CN-09-0027; CN-08-003) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3539. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Increased Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-

FV-09-0037; FV09-927-1 FR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3540. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fresh Prunes Grown in Designated Counties in Washington and in Umatilla County, OR; Increased Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-FV-09-0040; FV09-924-1 FR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3541. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Nectarines and Peaches Grown in California: Decreased Assessment Rates" (Docket No. AMS-FV-09-0013; FV09-916/917-2 IFR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3542. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the House Armed Services Committee Report 111-166, accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (HR 2647); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3543. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Spain; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3544. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Papua New Guinea; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3545. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to the United Arab Emirates; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3546. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Chile; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3547. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fair Credit Reporting Affiliate Marketing Regulations; Identity Theft Red Flags and Address Discrepancies Under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003" (RIN3084-AA94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3548. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Foreign Repairs to American Vessels" (RIN1505-AB71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 19, 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3549. A communication from the Office Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Changes to the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System and Calendar Year 2010

Payment Rates; Changes to the Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment System and Calendar Year 2010 Payment Rates" (RIN0938-AP41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3550. A communication from the Office Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Revisions to Part B for Calendar Year 2010" (RIN0938-AP40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3551. A communication from the Office Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update for Calendar Year 2010" (RIN0938-AP55) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3552. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2009-0126-2009-0161 and 2009-0179-2009-0197); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3553. A communication from the Office Manager, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Examination of Aliens—Removal of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection from Definition of Communicable Disease of Public Health Significance" (RIN0920-AA26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2008; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3554. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the six-month period ending September 30, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3555. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Report to Congress on the Social and Economic Conditions of Native Americans: Fiscal Years 2003 and 2004"; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-3556. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Fospropofol into Schedule IV" (Docket Number DEA-327F) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

study to determine the suitability and feasibility of adding the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, in the State of Wyoming, as a unit of the National Park System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 2723. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special depreciation allowance and recovery period for noncommercial aircraft property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. ENSIGN, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2724. A bill to provide for environmental restoration activities and forest management activities in the Lake Tahoe Basin; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2725. A bill to provide for fairness for the Federal judiciary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 146

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 146, a bill to amend the Federal anti-trust laws to provide expanded coverage and to eliminate exemptions from such laws that are contrary to the public interest with respect to railroads.

S. 535

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 796

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 796, a bill to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain land, and for other purposes.

S. 797

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 797, a bill to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act, the Indian Tribal Justice Act, the Indian Tribal Justice Technical and Legal Assistance Act of 2000, and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to improve the prosecution of, and response to, crimes in Indian country, and for other purposes.

S. 1129

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1129, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to local educational agencies to improve college enrollment.

S. 1158

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. ENZI):

S. 2722. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource